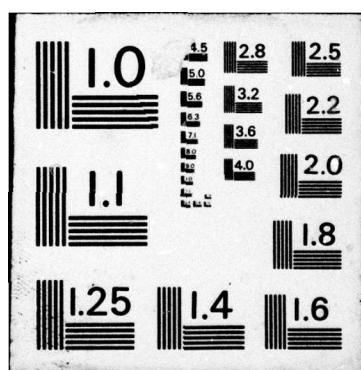


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**3RD INTERNATIONAL BIODEGRADATION SYMPOSIUM  
HELD AT RHODE ISLAND UNIVERSITY, KINGSTON  
ON 17-23 AUGUST 1975**

**RHODE ISLAND UNIVERSITY, KINGSTON**

**1 OCTOBER 1976**

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20. ABSTRACT (Continue on reverse side if necessary and identify by block number)  <p>The Third International Biodegradation Symposium was held at the University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island 02881 between August 15-23, 1975. The Proceedings of the Third International Biodegradation were published by Applied Science Publishers, Ltd. Rippleside Commerical Estate, Barking, Essex, England and are available for purchase. Complimentary copies have been provided to the agencies which sponsored the Symposium.</p>		

OFFICE OF NAVAL RESEARCH

Contract N00014-68-A-0215-0014

Task No. NR 306-098

FINAL REPORT

The Third International Biodegradation Symposium

by

K. W. Traxler

University of Rhode Island

Department of Plant Pathology-Entomology

Kingston, Rhode Island 02881

1 October 1976

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## Introduction and Background

This project entitled, "The Third International Biodegradation Symposium" was designed to provide financial support for the organization, operation, and the preparation of the printed Proceedings of The Third International Biodegradation Symposium. In late 1971 the President of the Biodegradation Society requested the Chairman to organize this symposium at a site within the U.S. sometime in either 1974 or 1975. This Symposium, the third in a series, was organized under the auspices of the Standing Committee for International Symposium of the Biodegradation Society.

The Chairman selected an Executive Committee to aid in these tasks and this committee held their first meeting in November of 1972. At the first meeting the following basic concepts were decided upon:

1. The site would be on the eastern seaboard of the U.S. in a university setting;
2. The date would be in the summer of 1975 to allow time for proper organization and programming;
3. The specific date would be coordinated with university schedules in both the U.S. and Europe, the Gordon Research Conference on the Microbiology of Degradation, and the Annual Meeting of the Society for Industrial Microbiology;
4. Funds for support of the various functions would be sought from government agencies and industry concerned with various aspects of Biodegradation and Biodegradation;
5. The program would reflect fundamental as well as applied investigations on the effects of organisms on materials of interest to humans and the relationships of organisms and chemical substances in our environment;
6. A printed volume of high quality would be prepared to report the information presented at the Symposium;

7. The Executive Committee would meet regularly to discuss problems, set policy and ensure success of this venture.
8. Registration and other costs would be set at minimum possible rates.

The site chosen was the University of Rhode Island which offered reasonable room and meal costs, an environment free of city stresses, good meeting rooms and fairly easy access for the participants. Early on in planning it was decided to meet concurrent with the Society for Industrial Microbiology and in the week following the Gordon Research Conference which was held in New Hampshire. The date selected by the various concerned organizations was the week of 17-23 August 1975.

#### Specific Information and Accomplishments

##### A. Members of the Executive Committee

1. R. W. Traxler, Chairman, University of Rhode Island
2. P.A. Brett, Exhibits, Bellco Glass, Inc.
3. A. C. Jewett, Member, Office of Naval Research (Retired)
4. R. E. Johnson, Finance, National Bureau of Standards
5. A. M. Kaplan, Program and Co-Editor Proceedings,  
U.S. Army Natick Research and Development Command
6. J. M. Litchfield, Member, Battelle Memorial Institute
7. R. J. Lukens, Publicity, Chevron Chemical Company
8. J. M. Sharpley, Co-Editor Proceedings, Virginia Commonwealth  
University and Sharpley Laboratories, Inc.

9. C. C. Yeager, Member, Ventron Corporation

##### B. Sponsors (Direct financial support) through this contract

1. Office of Naval Research
2. National Bureau of Standards
3. U.S. Coast Guard
4. Naval Ship Engineering Center
5. Naval Facilities Engineering Command

6. U.S. Army Research Office

C. Supporting organizations were:

1. Rhode Island Agricultural Experiment Station, Transportation, Office Space, Duplication facilities
2. Society for Industrial Microbiology - Mailing lists, Program Coordination
3. Biodeterioration Information Centre - Mailing list, addressing and posting of all mail in Europe.

Each of the three organizations provided many other services too numerous to mention which contributed to the success of the program.

D. Program

The program was developed using fourteen symposia chosen so as to cover major topics in Biodegradation and Biodeterioration. A recognized leader for a specific topic was asked to organize a symposium by inviting speakers to discuss selected aspects of the topic. Papers contributed by scientist from the international community were organized into an additional eleven sessions based on the general direction and subject matter of the papers.

The Symposium was opened with the Keynote Address, "In the Course of Natural Events" presented by Professor Robert L. Starkey. Two additional plenary sessions were organized with the papers "Marine Pollution and International Law" by Bostiwich H. Ketchum, "The Role of the Environmental Protection Agency in Environmental Affairs" by James L. Agee and "The Two Faces of Biodeterioration" by Carl Lamanna.

E. Proceedings

The Proceedings of The Third International Symposium were published by Applied Science Publishers Ltd and contain the entire text of the 4 plenary papers, 58 invited papers for the Symposia and 43 contributed papers for a total of 105 papers. The text contains 1121 printed pages, 15 pages of index, 452 illustrations and 245 tables. These were 7 additional papers presented but we did not receive manuscripts from the authors.

Copies of the Proceedings volume have been mailed to the 471 persons registered for the Symposium and the Society for Industrial Microbiology Annual Meeting. Ten copies are being mailed to each agency which provided direct financial support and the remainder will be distributed to selected libraries at universities having biodegradation research and/or teaching programs.